

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ARA-11 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
ACDA-12 EB-08 L-03 SAA-01 SSM-03 SES-02 SMS-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 4057

E.O. 11652: XGDS
TAGS: PORG, UN
SUBJECT: 33RD UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY: US STRATEGY AND OBJECTIVES

REF: STATE 225331

1. SUMMARY: CHARGE, ACCOMPANIED BY ECON OFF, REVIEWED TOPICS COVERED IN REFTEL WITH SECGEN OF FONMIN DIATTA SEPT 8. AS EXPECTED, DIATTA MADE GENERALLY FAVORABLE IF NON-COMMITTAL COMMENTS ON TALKING POINTS PRESENTED REFTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. CHARGE FIRST RAISED BASIC U.S. PRINCIPLE OF SUPPORT FOR NEGOTIATIONS AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE TO VIOLENCE AS MEANS OF SETTLING DISPUTES; HE NOTED OUR EFFORTS IN MIDDLE EAST, RHODESIA, AND CYPRUS. IN RESPONSE TO PLEA FROM CHARGE FOR SUPPORT FROM NIGER FOR THIS PRINCIPLE, DIATTA SAID THAT GON AGREED AND HAD UNDERTAKEN ITS OWN EFFORTS (PRESUMABLY WITH REGARD TO CHAD) TO PROMOTE NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS IN AFRICA.

3. ON NAMIBIA, DIATTA SAID HE THOUGH THAT BRINGING ABOUT A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE UNDER U.N. SUPERVISION AND CONTROL WOULD BE DIFFICULT BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE. HE THOUGH THAT IN FACT NAMIBA WAS THE ONE PLACE IN AFRICA WHERE A NEGOTIATED
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SOLUTION WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPLEMENTED. NIGER'S POSITION ON THE REPORT OF THE SYG AND ANY FURTHER EFFORTS OF THE WESTERN FIVE WOULD DEPEND ON THE VIEWS OF THE OAU AND SWAPO. NONETHELESS, DIATTA SAID HE WAS OPTOMISTIC THAT IN THE END THERE WOULD BE A SUCCESSFUL SOLUTION FOR NAMIBIA.

4. ON PUERTO RICO, DIATTA LISTENED CAREFULLY TO CHARGE'S

DISCUSSION BASED ON TALKING POINTS CONTAINED RFTL BUT MADE
NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT EXCEPT TO SAY HE THOUGH NIGER WOULD CON-
TINUE TO TAKE THE POSITION WHICH IT HAD IN THE PAST (COMMENT:
PRACTICAL EFFECT OF NIGER'S PREVIOUS POSITION HAS BEEN
FAVORABLE TO U.S., I.E., TO DEFER DISCUSSIONS OF THIS ISSUE
AT THE UNGA).

5. ON KOREA, DIATTA SAID THE POSITION OF NIGER WAS QUITE CLEAR.
THE GON MAINTAINED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BOTH KOREAS. NIGER
BELIEVED THAT A SOLUTION COULD ONLY BE FOUND THROUGH DIALOGUE BETWEEN
THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, WITH AS LITTLE OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE AS POSSIBLE.
CHARGE COMMENTED THAT HE FOUND THIS POSITION LOGICAL AND REALISTIC.

6. COMMENT: AS DIATTA NOTED WITH REGARD TO NAMIBIA, NIGER WILL
GENERALLY FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE AFRICA GROUP AS A WHOLE AT THE
UNGA 33RD SESSION. HOWEVER, ITS BASIC POLITICAL ORIENTATION IS
FAVORABLE TO WESTERN INTERESTS; THE GON HAS GENERALLY RESISTED
BLANDISHMENTS FROM ITS MORE RADICAL AFRICAN AND ARAB NEIGHBORS.
NONETHELESS, WE SHOULD NOT TAKE NIGER FOR GRANTED. INDEED, SOME
INVESTMENT OF TIME AND ATTENTION TO NIGER DELEGATION MIGHT PAY
CONSIDERABLE DIVIDENDS. FONMIN DJERMAKOYE WHO WILL DIRECT
NIGERIEN GROUP IS A VIGOROUS MILITARY MAN WHOSE SELF IMAGE IS THAT
OF A LEADER. CAREFUL CULTIVATION OF HIM IN NEW YORK COULD
LEAD TO NIGER RAISING ITS VOICE IN WAYS FAVORABLE TO US
WITHIN THE AFRICAN CAUCUS, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE FRANCOPHONES.
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